(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 3 June 2004 (03.06.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2004/047004 A2

(51) International Patent Classification7:

G06K 9/00

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/GB2003/004916

(22) International Filing Date:

13 November 2003 (13.11.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 0226787.0

18 November 2002 (18.11.2002)

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): QINE-TIQ LIMITED [GB/GB]; Registered Office, 85 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6PD (GB).

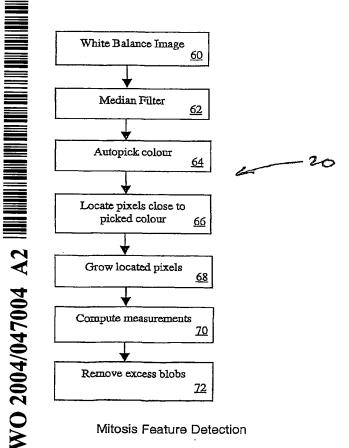
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): GUITTET.

Christelle, Marie [FR/GB]; Qinetiq Limited, Malvern Technology Centre, E Building Room 304, St Andrews Road, Malvern, Worcestershire WR14 3PS (GB). DUCKSBURY, Paul, Gerard [GB/GB]; Qinetiq Limited, Malvern Technology Centre, E Building Room 311, St Andrews Road, Malvern, Worcestershire WR14 3PS (GB). PETROU, Maria [GB/GB]; School of Electronics Computing and Mathematics, University of Surrey, Guildford GU2 7XH (GB). KESIDIS, Anastasios [GR/GR]; Sevastopoulou 25, 11524 Athens (GR). CIPOLLA, Roberto [GB/GB]; Department of Engineering, Fallside Laboratory, Room 435, Trumpington Street, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2 1PZ (GB). VARGA, Margaret, Jai [GB/GB]; Qinetiq Malvern Technology Center, E Building Room 302, St Andrews Road Malvern, Worcs WR14 3PS (GB).

(74) Agent: WILLIAMS, A., W., S.; IP Qinetiq Fromalities, Cody Technology Park, A4 Building, Room G016, Ively Road, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 0LX (GB).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MEASUREMENT OF MITOTIC ACTIVITY



Mitosis Feature Detection

(57) Abstract: A method of measurement of mitotic activity from histopathological specimen images initially identifies image pixels with luminances corresponding to mitotic figures and selects from them a reference pixel to provide a reference colour. Pixels similar to the reference colour are located; image regions are grown on located pixels by adding pixels satisfying thresholds of differences to background and image region luminances. Grown regions are thresholded in area, compactness, width/height ratio, luminance ratio to background and difference between areas grown with perturbed thresholds. Grown regions are counted as indicating mitotic figures by thresholding region number, area and An alternative method of measuring mitotic luminance. activity measures a profile of an image region and counts the image region as corresponding to a mitotic figure if its profile is above a threshold at an intensity associated with mitotic figures. A mitotic figure is also indicated if the profile does not meet the previous criterion but has three other values satisfying respective threshold criteria.

WO 2004/047004 A2



- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE,

SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

Published:

 without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.